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CONTENTS

Vietnam: Situation report. (Page 1)

Czechoslovakia: The public is dissatisfied with decisions at the central committee plenum. (Page 2)

Poland: Foreign Minister Rapacki's replacement reportedly will be announced next week. (Page 3)

Italy: The Christian Democrat and Socialist parties are reviewing policies on center-left government. (Page 4)

Israel: Yesterday's terrorist bombing will almost certainly provoke a strong Israeli response. (Page 5)

Singapore: The government is forming a joint state-private trading corporation to regulate trade with Communist China. (Page 6)

Chile: President Frei is consolidating control over his Christian Democratic Party. (page 7)

World Communist Conference: New date (Page 8)

Egypt: Student unrest (Page 8)

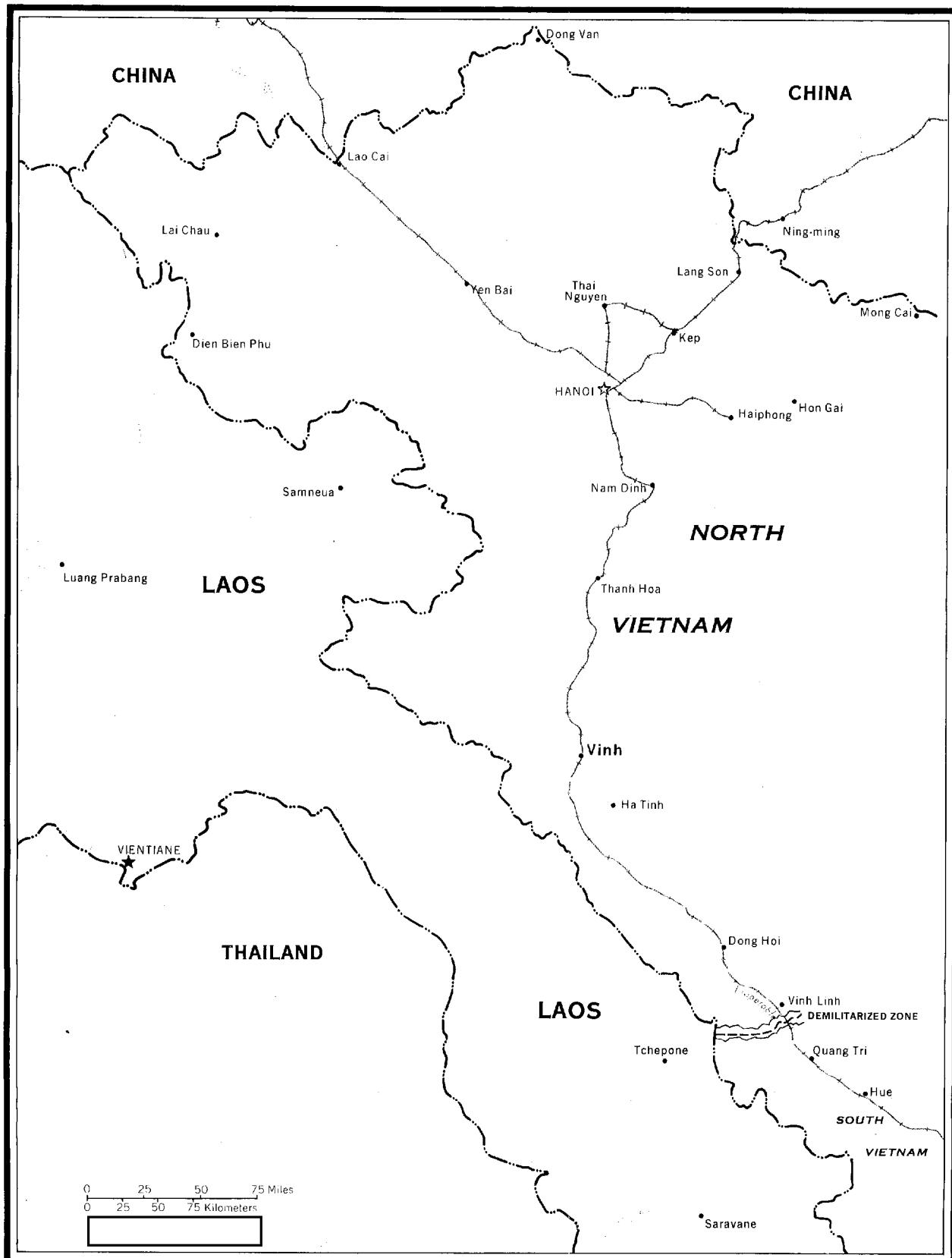
Pakistan: Student disorders (Page 8)

Dominican Republic: Return of General Wessin (Page 9)

Ecuador: Worry over riots (Page 9)

SECRET

Approved For Release 2003/06/11 : CIA-RDP79T00975A012600060001-5



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[Vietnam:

South Vietnam: No major military actions were initiated by Communist forces on 21-22 November.

No population centers were shelled and no significant military activity occurred in the Demilitarized Zone. Light enemy shellings were directed at allied military installations, however, and several small-scale enemy ground actions were reported from widely separated parts of the country.

North Vietnam: Daytime logistics activities south of the 19th parallel in North Vietnam have stepped up during the past week. South of Vinh, large numbers of trucks were observed in photography of 16 and 17 November on the two main routes leading toward the Laos panhandle. Prior to the bombing halt there usually was little daytime trucking observed on these routes because of the threat of air strikes.

Other reports indicate there also has been an increase recently in truck movements within Laos, but this may reflect intensive shuttling operations rather than a significant movement of trucks into the panhandle. Photography and roadwatch teams have not yet detected any major increase in traffic along the two major routes from North Vietnam into Laos.

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Czechoslovakia: The public is obviously dissatisfied with the decisions of the recent party central committee plenum.

The students have ended their sit-in strikes, but have threatened to demonstrate again if the leadership takes any "backward steps" in implementing the decisions made at the plenum. Industrial workers, who sided with the students, have also ended their token sympathy strikes. It is apparent that opposition among youths, workers, intellectuals, and other sectors of the populace is widespread although it is not well organized. Party leaders risk serious public reaction if they introduce new restrictions.

Some newspapers have taken up the cause of the students by publicizing their ten-point demands, which include many of the freedoms originally included in Dubcek's reform program. Rude Pravo, the main party daily, has suggested that the party must find the courage to tell the public why it did not implement certain reforms and why the introduction of others will be delayed.

Moscow seems relatively satisfied with the results of the plenum. The Soviet press has reported on it extensively.

The Soviets still have not extracted from the Czechoslovaks an admission that the invasion was justified by the existence of a counterrevolutionary situation in Czechoslovakia, but Moscow appears to be content with the slow reimposition of political controls. The Soviets probably see Dubcek's admission that the Czechoslovak party failed to assess accurately the threat of "antisocialist" forces as a step in the right direction and the most that could be expected from the present leadership of the Czechoslovak party. [redacted]

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Poland: Deputy Foreign Minister Adam Kruczkowski will become Poland's new minister of foreign affairs [redacted]

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Kruczkowski, 38, appointed to his present post in April, will replace veteran Adam Rapacki, whose political demise was sealed by the Polish party congress last week. Kruczkowski has been responsible for relations with the USSR and Eastern Europe and is a competent technician. He is representative of the tough, educated, younger generation of the party that made significant gains at the congress.

Unlike Rapacki, Kruczkowski will not hold a politburo seat and thus will have no great voice in policymaking. Foreign policy, like defense matters, will remain under the purview of party leader Gomulka.

Kruczkowski's appointment reportedly will be announced on 30 November by the parliament, which probably will make other changes in the government to reflect personnel shifts made in the party hierarchy by the congress. [redacted]

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Italy: The executive bodies of the Christian Democratic and Socialist parties are meeting this weekend to try to reach decisions on the formation of a center-left government.

Ex-premier Aldo Moro has withdrawn his faction's support from the majority that has controlled the Christian Democratic Party for the past year. Moro probably is trying to force the formation of a new majority including the left factions. He may also hope the move will put him in the running for premier or party secretary, and will block a reported scheme of other party leaders to divide up the principal party and government positions.

The Socialist Party directorate is reviewing the political situation in the light of developments in the Christian Democratic Party. The Socialists appear to be making some progress toward a division of party and government posts that would satisfy their various factions.

President Saragat is consulting with political leaders preparatory to designating a new premier. Should efforts to form a center-left government bog down, it is probable that another interim, minority Christian Democratic government will be installed pending an extraordinary Christian Democratic Party congress early next year. Such a government would have trouble putting through controversial legislation.

The current student and labor agitation is not the cause of Italy's political difficulties, but its continuation makes more urgent the installation of a government capable of enacting reform legislation. [redacted]

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Israel: Yesterday's terrorist bombing of a Jewish marketplace in West Jerusalem, in which 11 people were killed, seems almost certain to provoke a strong Israeli response.

The nature and direction of the response will presumably hinge on what the Israeli authorities unearth in their investigation. In previous incidents of this type, the Israelis have jailed the terrorists and blown up their homes. After the 9 October bombing in Hebron, however, Minister of Defense Dayan said--without elaborating--that in the future a "new type of selective retaliatory action would be taken against the men behind such incidents." [redacted]

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Singapore: The government will regulate trade with China through a joint state-private trading corporation.

The International Trading Company (INTRACO) will control trade from Communist countries--particularly Communist China--as well as promote trade with free world countries. INTRACO, which is expected to begin operating in January 1969, will eventually have nine overseas offices, including one in the US. Government spokesmen have assured Singapore's traders that the government has no intention of competing with private enterprise in foreign trade and that China is the main reason for forming INTRACO.

Singapore's statistics show that trade with Communist China, some 85 percent of which consists of imports, has grown by nearly a third since 1966 and will probably total about \$180 million this year. A large share of Singapore's imports are re-exported to other free world countries.

This trade in the past has been handled by only one or two private firms. The Singapore Government fears that the heads of these firms, who wield power and influence in the Singapore community, could become subversive tools of Peking.

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Chile: President Frei is consolidating control over his Christian Democratic Party.

Frei, who in the past has been reluctant to involve himself in strictly partisan matters, recently fired left-wing Christian Democratic leader Jacques Chonchol from his government job. Although Chonchol's leftist colleagues are unhappy over this development, they are unlikely to make an open break with the party now, as congressional elections are scheduled for March. Frei appears to have improved the position of his supporters, who now may be able to organize their forces for the party congress to be held after the elections.

Communist propaganda regarding present developments within the Christian Democratic Party seems to have strengthened the hand of Frei and others who claim that the Communists' only goal is to divide the party. Communist attacks lumping presidential hopeful Radomiro Tomic with Frei and other moderates have undercut Tomic's arguments in favor of cooperation with the Communists.

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NOTES

World Communist Conference: Moscow achieved its main goal at the preparatory meeting in Budapest, which ended Thursday, when all but three small parties agreed to fix a new date for the international conference. Soviet pressures on reluctant European parties evidently had their effect, since both the French and Italians endorsed the May 1969 date. Nevertheless, the Soviets can expect to face further struggle over the conference agenda at another preparatory meeting scheduled for 17 March in Moscow.

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Egypt: An outburst of student unrest is again troubling the Nasir regime. According to press reports from Cairo, four persons were killed and some 44 injured when demonstrating students from a religious secondary school clashed with police in a city 75 miles north of Cairo on Thursday. Nasir was clearly upset by the antiregime aspects of widespread student demonstrations last February, and will probably institute measures designed to limit the spread of this new outbreak.

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Pakistan: A new outbreak of student disorders may occur if government schools and colleges in Peshawar reopen as scheduled on 25 November. The government's recent arrests and threats--while somewhat inhibiting opposition groups--seem to have brought them closer together than at any time in the recent past. The announcement this week that Asghar Khan, a respected ex-chief of the air force, intends to join the opposition may provide a rallying point for antigovernment forces throughout West Pakistan.

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Dominican Republic: Exiled General Wessin is pressing President Balaguer to permit him to return following his brother-in-law's murder by a congressional supporter of Balaguer. Wessin--the leader of the government forces during the 1965 revolution--has requested US aid in gaining re-entry and has asked Balaguer for a guarantee of personal safety. Wessin's return under present circumstances would play into the hands of Balaguer's left- and right-wing opponents, who have recently stepped up their scheming and are likely to denounce the murder as "another act of government repression." [redacted]

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Ecuador: Panic among cabinet ministers over riots in a southern town reflects a growing worry within the Velasco government that plans exist for its overthrow. President Velasco has thus far resisted advice to assume emergency powers but may reshuffle his cabinet in an effort to deal with disorders cropping up throughout the country. Top military leaders, reacting to rioters' attacks on troops, assured Velasco late on 21 November that he had the complete support of the military. [redacted]

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